1879—CITY DOCUMENT No. 4.

TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

TRUSTEES

OF THE

FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

OF NEW BEDFORD.

NEW BEDFORD:
MERCURY PUBLISHING COMPANY, PRINTERS TO THE CITY.
1879.

Officers of the Free Public Library

FOR THE YEAR 1879.

TRUSTEES.

Ex-officio. Term expires January, 1880.

WILLIAM T. SOULE, Mayor of the City.
ROBERT W. TABER, President of the Common Council.
EBEN C. MILLIKEN, Chairman of the Committee of the City Council on Public Instruction.

Elected by the City Council.

ABRAHAM H. HOWLAND, Jr.,	Term expires January, 1880.
S. GRIFFITTS MORGAN,	Term expires January, 1880.
GEORGE H. DUNBAR,	Term expires January, 1881.
GEORGE HOWLAND, Jr.,	Term expires January, 1881.
EDWIN DEWS,	Term expires January, 1882.
CHARLES H. PIERCE,	Term expires January, 1882.

PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD.

THE MAYOR.

CLERK.

GEORGE H. DUNBAR.

COMMITTEES.

On the Library—The Mayor, Geo. Howland, Jr., Morgan and Pierce.
On the Building—Messrs. Milliken and Taber.
On Binding and Blanks—Messrs. Abraham H. Howland, Jr., and Dunbar.
On the Museum—Messrs. Morgan, Dews and Pierce.

SUPERINTENDENT OF THE LIBRARY.

GEORGE H. DUNBAR.

LIBRARIAN.

ROBERT C. INGRAHAM.

ASSISTANT LIBRARIANS.

JOSEPHINE A. MERRICK, MARY E. BROWN.

REPORT.

To the City Council of the City of New Bedford:

GENTLEMEN,—The Trustees of the Free Public Library respectfully submit their Twenty-seventh Annual Report:—

That the library has not only lost none of its hold upon the public mind, but is growing in popular favor, is making a deeper, stronger and a more lasting impression upon our people, is clearly indicated by the following statistics of its operations for the year 1878:

Whole number of books taken during the year,		72,894
Daily average of volumes delivered,		237
Total number of cards issued,		16,649
Increase over last year,		777
Volumes added during the year, exclusive of periodicals,		
By purchase,	1,237	
By gifts,	186 vols., 355 pamphlets.	
Total number of books in the library,		38,000
Number of newspapers on the stand,		14
Number of periodicals on the tables,		104

We have not the data on which to base an exact classification of the books taken from the library during the year, but the librarian makes the following estimate:

Theology and Philosophy,	2	per cent.
Law, Politics, etc.,	2	"
Science and Useful Arts,	3	"
History,	2.5	"
Biography,	5.5	"
Voyages and Travels,	4	"
Prose Fiction,	73.	"
Poetry, Drama and Literary Miscellanies	7.5	"
Fine Arts,	0.5	"

We repeat in substance, and with increasing earnestness, what has been said in the last four annual reports of the Trustees, in regard to the absolute necessity for more room and better accommodations for the library. The library building is not, as some may suppose, simply a store house, with a given number of cubic feet of shelf-room and capable of accommodating an equal number of cubic feet of books. The library in order to be useful, to accomplish all the good of which it is capable, must have the books it contains carefully arranged and properly classified.

System is as essential in the management of a library as it is in any department of the city government, or in any institution, business or employment, individual or corporate.

Each class of books should have not only room enough upon the shelves for present accommodation, but also for future increase.

A wise city government forecasts the future and prepares for it. It should do so in regard to the library.

The time has arrived, in our opinion, when the library, for present and future use requires the whole of the library building, and we respectfully but earnestly ask, that the offices located upon the first floor of the library building be removed at as early a date as is convenient, and the whole building be devoted to the library.

What shall be done with the offices? We would respectfully suggest, that without a large expense, a building for their accommodation could be erected on the vacant lot owned by the city east of the library building. We shall be pleased to have you give this subject early attention, and we are satisfied that a close and thorough investigation will confirm the views and opinions we have expressed.

You will permit us to again call your attention to the fact that the City Treasurer has not yet credited the library account with "the interest upon its proportion of the Sylvia

Ann Howland fund from the date it was received by the City Treasurer to the date of the city ordinance regulating the bequest."

The interest amounts to about twenty-five hundred and fifty dollars. The Trustees believe this interest, by every principle of law, equity and justice belongs to the library and should at once be credited to its account.

The City Solicitor in a written opinion dated Dec. 19, 1876, confirms the views, in this regard, held by the Trustees.

If this debt or interest had been due to a bank, or an individual, it would have been promptly paid. Why should it not have been as promptly paid when due to the library funds? The obligation is the same. We can assign no reason for the delay but inadvertancy.

The late Oliver Crocker, keenly alive to the wants and necessities of the people, watchful of their interest and ever ready to aid and assist them by any method or manner tending to promote their comfort and happiness, and highly appreciating the influence for good, which intellectual culture exerts upon the habits and character of the people, with wise generosity gave the sum of one thousand dollars to the Free Public Library. With great pleasure the Trustees received this thoughtful and liberal bequest, and with grateful hearts have acknowledged its receipt.

In the appendix will be found a detailed statement of our receipts and expenditures during the past year, a full statement of the present condition of the several trust funds, and a list of donations received, with the names of the donors.

In behalf of the Board of Trustees,

GEORGE B. RICHMOND,

President.

APPENDIX.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT CONCERNING THE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY FOR 1878.

STATEMENT OF THE LIBRARIAN.

1878.			
Jan. 1st.	Cash on hand,		$117.77
	Receipts from books lost and sales of catalogues and bulletins,		6.80
	Fines,		242.76
			$367.33
	Paid for Books,	$92.25	
	Expressage,	30.43	
	Stationery,	29.80	
	Incidentals,	26.14	
	P. O. box and postage,	23.15	
	Catalogues,	6.50	
	Binding,	5.00	
	Directory,	2.00	
1879.			
Jan. 1st.	Balance in hands of librarian,	152.06	$367.33

FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY ACCOUNT.

1878.			
January 1.	Cash on hand,		$287.71
24.	One half net receipts from dog licenses,		762.21
April 13.	Annual appropriation,		3,000.00
			$4,049.92
Bills approved	January 26,	$127.03	
"	February 23,	35.63	
"	April 1,	862.17	
"	June 29,	777.98	
"	July 30,	8.87	
"	October 1,	819.82	
"	December 28,	770.98	3,402.48
	Balance unexpended January 1,		$647.44

TRUST FUND ACCOUNTS.

Jan 1, 1878.	Balances on hand:	
	Sylvia Ann Howland fund,	$10,722.02
	George Howland, Jr., "	293.17
	Charles W. Morgan, "	156.74
	James B. Congdon, "	21.25
		$11,193.18

SYLVIA ANN HOWLAND FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY FUND.

1878.		
Jan. 1st.	Unexpended balance of income,	$10,722.02
July 1st.	Six months' interest,	1,500.00
Dec. 31st.	" "	1,500.00
		$13,722.02

Bills approved (for periodicals, books and binding) viz:

January,	$79.81	
February 23d,	504.12	
April 1st,	296.24	
April 27th,	274.31	
May 25th,	133.13	
June 29th,	201.39	
July 30th,	107.43	
October 1st,	478.72	
October 26th,	164.31	
November 30th,	92.01	
December 28th,	382.98	2,714.45
		$11,007.57

The detailed statement of expenditure from the income of this fund is as follows:

Sylvander Hutchinson,	$415.96
James M. Lawton, Jr.,	408.72
John Allyn,	333.86
New England Subscription Agency,	187.66
Scribner, Welford & Armstrong,	170.07
Periodicals,	165.99
American Academy of Arts and Sciences,	140.00
David G. Francis,	138.83
Edwin Dews,	127.73
Charles L. Woodward,	89.38
United States Patent Office,	50.00
Little, Brown & Co.,	46.90
Robert Clark & Co.,	45.30
J. W. Bouton,	36.00
National Subscription Agency,	29.25
Collins & Allen,	28.93
Houghton, Osgood & Co.,	28.00
G. P. Putnam's Sons,	27.53
Noyes, Snow & Co.,	26.00
Scribner & Welford,	22.25
G. E. Littlefield,	17.75
Universalist Publishing House,	16.63
E. Steiger,	14.88
A. L. Luyster,	14.00
J. B. Lippincott & Co.,	10.63
George W. Littlefield,	9.50
Massachusetts Historical Society,	9.00
William B. Hammond,	9.00
Carl Schoenhof,	8.60
Mercury Publishing Company,	6.00
Cambridge Entomological Club,	6.00
Edmund Anthony & Sons,	6.00
Charles Scribner's Sons,	5.40
William Howe,	5.36
American Journal of Mathematics,	5.00
Herbarium of Harvard University,	5.00
F. B. Perkins,	5.00
F. Leypoldt,	5.00
Academy of Natural Sciences,	5.00
D. Appleton & Co.,	5.00
Town of Sutton,	4.00
Boston Society of Natural History,	3.50

F. S. Drake & Co.,	3.50
Almy, Milne & Co.,	3.00
E. P. Raymond,	3.00
William Cushing,	2.59
S. E. Cassino,	2.50
Schoenhof & Moeller,	2.00
Oliver Ditson & Co.,	2.00
George Dimmock,	1.25
	$2,714.45

GEORGE HOWLAND JUNIOR FUND.

1878.		
Jan. 1st.	Unexpended balance of income,	$293.17
	One year's interest,	96.00
		$389.17

CHARLES W. MORGAN FUND.

1878.		
Jan. 1st.	Unexpended balance of income,	$156.74
	One year's interest,	60.00
		$216.74

JAMES B. CONGDON FUND.

1878.		
Jan. 1st.	Unexpended balance of income,	21.25
	Interest omitted in 1877 account,	6.17
	One year's interest,	30.00
		$57.42

OLIVER CROCKER FUND.

1879.		
Jan. 1st.	Interest to date,	4.50

Total unexpended balances in the control of the Board of Trustees:

1879.		
Jan. 1st.	Sylvia Ann Howland Free Public Library fund,	$11,007.57
	George Howland Junior fund,	389.17
	Charles W. Morgan "	216.74
	James B. Congdon "	57.42
	Oliver Crocker "	4.50
		$11,675.40

ABRAHAM H. HOWLAND, JR.,
Clerk of the Board of Trustees.

FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY, Jan. 1, 1879.

GIFTS, 1878.

	Volumes.	Pamphlets
American Antiquarian Society, Worcester,		2
American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia,	2	2
American Unitarian Association,	3	1
Apprentices Library, New York,		2
Bell, W. S.,		1
Bodley, Rachel L., Philadelphia,		2
Boston, City of,	1	
Boston Public Library,		6
Bradlee, Rev. C. D., Boston, 33 broadsides,		6
Briggs, Samuel,	1	
Brookline Public Library,		1
Brownell, T. Frank,		1
Buckminster, Joseph,	2	6
Butler Hospital for the insane,		1
Chicago Public Library,		1
Childs, Geo. W., Philadelphia,		2
Congdon, James B.,		3
Conner, William,	1	
Crapo, William W.,	15	
Crunden, Frederick M.,		1
Dayton, Ohio, Public Library,		1
De Costa, Rev. Benj. F., New York City,		1
Denham, Edward,		2
Dennison, T. R.,		2
Dews, Edwin,		44
Dexter, Franklin B.,		2
Dimmock, G.,		1
Dunbar, George H.,		120
Durfey, Richard T.,		2
Emery, Edwin,		2
Fall River, Committee on the Centennial History of,	1	
Fall River Public Library,		1

Farrington, William H.,	1	20
Financial Reform Association,		1
Fletcher Free Public Library, Burlington, Vt.,		1
Flint, Charles L.,	4	
Friends' Free Reading Room, Germantown,		1
Garfield, J. A.,		1
Hammond, Rev. William B.,		2
Hartford Library Association,		1
Harvard University, Cambridge,		1
Haverhill Public Library,	1	
Howland, George, Jr.,		1
Hutchinson, S.,		26
Jay, William,	1	
Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore,		1
Keene, Ebenezer S., 14 newspapers.		
King, F. T.,		1
Knowlton, Hosea M.,	7	1
Lancaster Library Committee,		1
Lawrence Public Library,		5
Lawton, James M., Jr.,	1	
Lee, L. A.,		1
Leslie, E. N., 2 MS. letters.		
Library Company, Philadelphia,		2
Lowell City Library,		1
Lynn Public Library,		1
Marble, Manton,		1
Massachusetts Society for the prevention of cruelty to animals,		1
Massachusetts, State of,	6	
Matthes, Dr. G. Felix,	3	
Memorial Hall Library, Andover,		1
Mercantile Library Association, New York City,		2
Mercantile Library Association, San Francisco,		2
Mercantile Library Company, Philadelphia,		2
Moulton, L. F.,	1	
New Bedford, City of,	1	
Newton Free Library,		1
Nicholson, W. T., Providence,	1	
Peabody Institute, Baltimore,		1
Providence Athenæum,		1
Putnam's Sons, G. P.,	1	
Queen, James W. & Co.,		2
Quint, Rev. Alonzo H.,		1
Reed, B. F. H.,	2	21

Rice, Roswell, Cambridge, N. Y., 6 broadsides.		
Ricketson, Daniel,		1
Ricketson, John H.,		1
Roberts, Rev. O. A.,		11
Rodman, Edmund,	12	
Rotch, William,		2
St. Louis School Board,		2
Spare, John,		1
Springfield City Library,		1
Staples, S. E.,		1
State Lunatic Hospital, Northampton, Mass.,		1
Taber, Charles & Co.,		1
Taber, Francis,	5	
Taunton Public Library,	1	2
Thomson, John H.,	6	5
Thomson, Peter G.,		1
Totten, Mrs. Elizabeth, Military Maps.		
United States Bureau of Education,	1	5
Bureau of Engineers, Military Maps.		
Geological Atlas,	5	
Department of the Interior,	53	
Department of State,	1	1
Department of the Treasury,	2	
Department of War, Military Maps.		
Patent Office,	4	
University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia,		1
Watertown Public Library,		1
Whitney, D. R.,	1	
Willey, Henry,		2
Wilmington Institute,		1
Winchester Home for Aged Women,		1
Woburn, Town of,		1
Woodward, Charles L.,	1	17
Worcester Free Public Library,		1
Wright, R. J., Philadelphia,		1
Young Men's Association, Buffalo,		1